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DISPATCH NO.: MGB-A-5488

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

DATE: 9 February 1950

TO : Chief, Foreign Division M ~~EYES ONLY~~ *W* **FEB 2 1950**
FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe
SUBJECT: General —
Specific — Berlin Situation and Planning for DAD
REF : MGB-A-5489

1. Recent events seem to indicate that the Berlin situation is once more working toward a crisis, the culmination of which can be expected on Whitsunday (28 and 29 May), at which time the Free German Youth is planning a jamboree in Berlin, the motto of which, in the words of Gerhardt Eisler, is "March on Berlin".

2. At the same time, recent intelligence received by this office, including such items as paragraph 5 of MGB-9559, cabled in BRLN-2457, indicates a war of nerves by all political weapons available to the Russians, in trying to once more, if not dislodge the western powers from Berlin, at least advertise their untenable position.

3. Concurrent with the increase of activity in the political field, there has been a recent increase in our intelligence operations and also a gradual increase in our production. The problem again arises of not only producing intelligence, but also getting it to the customer agencies, and more appropriately to Washington, in time for the timely use of customer agencies concerned with policy. This will be especially true as we get nearer to the Whitsuntide crisis and as again the question will arise if Russia is planning to start a war. In other words the yearly spring war fever is on.

4. Although our policy should clearly be to keep a cool head during any and all crises, all indications at present are that the Whitsuntide crisis, even if met squarely by the U.S. Element in Berlin, will be a more serious one than ever

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encountered before by U.S. Occupation Forces in Berlin. Indications are at present that the maximum Russian aim will be the complete disruption of the western sectors of Berlin by raucousness of the FDJ and the possible bringing in of Soviet Zone police to bring order^{up} to the chaos and to show that the western powers are not in a position to guarantee the peace and safety of the population in the areas they occupy. Concurrently we can expect the logical conclusion to be inferred from this example that since the western powers are not in a position to guarantee the safety and peace of the population, they should leave Berlin and turn it over to the East Zone, to which it geographically, historically, traditionally, etc., belongs. As wild as these possibilities might sound, on examining them on 8 February 1950, I believe for our staff planning we should take the worst eventuality into consideration and be prepared for it.

5. In order to meet this crisis we intend to

a. Step up our political reporting and eliminate time lag between receipt of reports and dissemination to customer agencies.

b. Go through our files and destroy all back correspondence and records not currently needed and get our files in condition so that the sensitive part can be shipped to Karlsruhe shortly before Whitsuntide and returned to Berlin after the Whitsuntide holidays.

c. Be sure we have enough weapons for all staff members for their own personal protection in case of mass action during the holidays and if possible obtain some automatic weapons for the possible protection of the headquarters building.

d. Ship all female personnel to the U.S. Zone during the Whitsuntide holidays to enjoy the long weekend at some quieter spot.

e. Determine which one of our agents could not survive in the Soviet occupation of all of Berlin and be in a position to furnish him with false documentation and escape routes in case worse comes to worse. This might be varied in some cases, such as CAISSON 1, whom we should also send down to the U.S. Zone to enjoy the Whitsuntide holidays more quietly.

6. At the same time this again brings the problem of stay-behind operations to the fore of our thinking and we intend to at least advise all agents who would be expected

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to stay behind and report through some channel or other, of the method by which they are to report and what arrangements are made for their communications. We expect to be in a position to advise you on this prior to Whitsuntide.

7. It is our intention to have [] handle those aspects described in paragraph 5.b, e, and paragraph 6 above.

ASM:cvg

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